

REMARKS

Claims 1, 11-20, 24-31 and 175 are now presented for examination. Claims 1, 11-20 and 26 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention, in terms which distinguish over the art of record, and Claim 27 has been rewritten in independent form. Claim 175, containing the same recitations as previous Claim 27 but dependent from amended Claim 20, has been added. Claims 4, 5, 22 and 23 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and those claims will not be mentioned further. Claims 1, 20 and 27 are independent.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that Claim 27 would be allowable if rewritten so as not to depend from a rejected claim, and with no change in scope. Since that claim has been so rewritten, it is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicants have amended the abstract to correct the informality kindly noted by the Examiner.

Claims 1, 11-13, 16, 19, 20, 24-26 and 28-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,841,991 (Russell). Claims 1, 17, 18 and 20 were rejected under Section 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,819,015 (Martin et al.).

Independent Claim 1 is directed to a remote control apparatus that comprises request means for requesting, from a device to be controlled, a control program for that device, and reception means for receiving the control program from the device. Also provided are execution means for executing the received control program, and transmission means for transmitting a control command to the device so as to control the device during an execution of the received control program.

Similarly, independent Claim 20 is directed to a remote control system that comprises identification means for identifying a device to be controlled by a remote control apparatus, and transmission control means for transmitting to the remote control apparatus from a device that is identified, a control program for the device. According to Claim 20, the remote control apparatus executes the control program that is received and transmits a control command to said device so as to control the device during an execution of the received control program.

Thus, among other important features the apparatus of Claim 1 and the system of Claim 20, is that a remote control apparatus receives, from a device to be controlled, a control program for the device and transmits a control command to the device so as to control the device during execution of the received control program.

*Russell* relates to a system in which a media access control (MAC) function is performed using a MAC address stored in an EPROM that is located on a target interactive network board. A LAN communication program is activated, and broadcasts through the LAN an inquiry for the target board to receive information relating to the location of that board, and to establish communication with that board. The MAC address is downloaded to a RAM on the board and loaded into the EPROM from the RAM. In the *Russell* system, operational parameters or statuses are transmitted from a peripheral device such as a printer to a network (column 3, line 65 to column 4, line 8, and column 8, lines 18-29).

Nothing has been found in *Russell*, however, that would teach or suggest a remote control apparatus that receives from a device to be controlled a control program for the device and transmits a control command to the device so as to control the device during execution of the received control program, as recited in Claims 1 and 20.

*Martin* relates to a technique for providing remote printer resource management in a network in which plural printers are provided and are able to communicate bi-directionally. Memory devices in the printers can be read (and managed, such as by being defragmented) by a host computer. A resource directory at the host computer is updated whenever such a management function is performed and completed. In the network, a command is transmitted from an internal network adaptor (INA) in a printer to a printer controller (column 5, line 56 to column 6, line 26).

Nothing has been found in *Martin*, however, that would teach or suggest a remote control apparatus that receives from a device to be controlled a control program for the device and transmits a control command to the device so as to control the device during execution of the received control program, as recited in Claims 1 and 20.

Accordingly, Claims 1 and 20 are believed clearly to be allowable over each of those patents.

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicants' opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as references against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

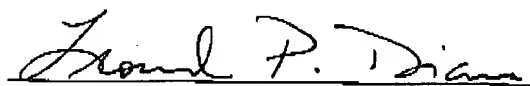
The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration or reconsideration, as the case may be, of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

This Amendment After Final Action is believed clearly to place this application in condition for allowance and its entry is therefore believed proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. At the very least, cancellation of Claims 4, 5, 22 and 23 eliminates all issues relating to those claims. In any event, however, entry of this Amendment After Final Action, as an earnest effort to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that issues remain outstanding, he is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney in an effort to resolve such issues and advance the case to issue.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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